Seal Poachers

Loosening the long knives in their belts, and gripping hand spike and rifle, they crept quietly up a slope of rock, smooth scarped and polished by the passage of countless seals. The mate well knew the risk he ran, and was by no means easy in his mind. It a party of Russian hunters, the righttul owners of the ground, had already landed, they might be shot down every man of them, for there is little doubt that the seal poacher meets with rough and ready justice at times. Occasionally these free kill seals in open water, carry a heard to boast of beating off cruisers' boats in open fight. It is rumschooners vigorously resisted attempts at seizure, and then, as now,

sian, and American diplomatists. The Caribou's crew, however, did not approach the resounding rookery. In the first place, the seven foot see catch, or bull scal, is a dangerous beast to meddle with hard for; in the second, his fur has generally been hopelessly torn and dom molests the breeding amphibging themselves over the ground. drive in the spouting surf, and then never touching dry land again return next year, full grown, breedon peril of their lives.

At a signal from the mate the men spread out, and a few moments crushing in the thin skulls as echoed with the sound of thudding blows, the piping of half killed seals, and the hoarse shouts of the Siwash as they drove the stragglers in. The men's breath hung like air, and the rank odor of the jelly blubber, which lies beneath the accustomed nostrils.

limp and furry bodies stretched ruins of which are still to be seen away into the darkness, and the panting men flung themselves likely suggested the idea of aerial down upon the stones, aching in telegraphy to the brothers Chappe every joint. The mate's right arm | and other inventors of the eigh felt heavy as lead, and his sleeve was soaked with blood to the sence of fieldglasses, the Romans dripped down into his eyes. But his share of the work was done, for phore) system as that of their now there remained only the task of skinning the seals before the daylight came, and this was the Indians' business. So he curled up under the lee of a boulder, watching the wild blood stained figures ply the glinting knives, and sucking at his pipe, until the sea fog closed down again and blotted out the moonlight.

A TRIBUTE TO BOADICEA. - For over eighteen centuries the name of Boadicea has been tamiliar to residents in London, or as it was known in her time, Lyndyn. The great Queen of the Iceni, who wa the wife Prasutagus, vainly endeavored to repulse the invading Romans, and her valiant warriors were slaughtered by the enemy somewhere between London and Colchester. In the neighborhood of King's Cross there is a spot the fiercest combats took place. The patriotic woman, disappointed ted suicide in 62. A monument to her memory is now to be erected near Westminster Bridge, and this will doubtless stimulate the juve niles to take up their histories and read the story of her adventuresome career. Last Saturday the model was placed in position on the Embankment immediately facing the Houses of Parliament, in country. The workmen, in gradorder that the County Council may see it on Tuesday. The sculptor, Mr. Thomas Thorneycroft, was work; indeed, he commenced it forty years ago, and had a special its being wholly executed under cover. The model weighs five tons, but the bronze will, of course, be much heavier. Boadicea, who stands 18 feet high, is represented in a chariot, supported on either side by temale warriors. In one hand she grips a tall spear, and with the other she holds the reins attached to her hery steeds. Spectators will not fail to notice that in The monument will be fixed on a granite base, and will bear the inscription:-

BOADICEA. Regions Cæsar never knew Thy posterity shall sway.

work of art will be unveiled in three a session of North America.

months' time, and the occasion POINTER. those Londoners who honor the memory of this valiant woman,-Lloyd's Newspaper.

Ancient Methods of Signalling.

Cornhill Magazine.

Probably the earliest and simplest form of long distance signalling is that by beacon fires. In clirates where the atmosphere is lances of the ocean, who may only unusually clear and the country not too flat, this method can genwell stocked armory on board, and erally be relied upon for forwardweather beaten skippers have been | ing clear signals of smoke by day and light by night. Thus, in Holy Writ, Jeremiah refers to the ored that in 1892 some of the former and Isaiah to the latter; indeed, the use of beacons may almost be said to be "as old as the the independent sealer was a rank | hills" on whose tops they are thorn in the side of British, Rus- placed. Relays of torch holders were also frequently employed by the ancients.

According to Æschylus, the taking of Troy-after its ten years' siege by Agememnon three thousand years ago-was made known on the ground he has fought so in Greece to his wife, Queen Clytemnestra, by beacons lighted on Mounts Ida, Athos, Cithæron and rent in the fray, and a sealer sel- other intervening heights. Fire signals were also used by Mardonians if he can obtain any others. | ius in the time of Xerxes, and They follow the broad seal road in- are mentioned frequently in stead which led away inland, until | Thucydides. We read that sigthe watery moonlight fell on a nalling by light was turned to a legion, perhaps a thousand strong, | very tender purpose by Hero, the of curious, flopping objects drag- beautiful priestess of Venus, in her love for Leander, to whom she dis-These were the hulluschakie, or played a lamp in her tower at Sesbachelor seals, too young as yet to tos whenever he was to swim enter the lists and fight with the across the Hellespont from Abyolder bulls for a place in the rook- dos to see her. But one night the ery. For three months they would lamp was blown out-he was flounder about the ledges and drowned, and she then threw herself into the waves. Theseus, in depart to scour the wide Pacific | the Argonautic expedition, adopted from Kamchatka to Cape Horn, another form of visual signalsnamely, the colors of the sails until such as escaped thresher hoisted, but killed his father whales and basking shark should through a telegraphic error; for, flushed with victory, he forgot his ing seals. Meanwhile they must | signal, and old Ægeus, seeing the herd apart, and avoid the rookeries | black sail, and feeling sure his son was dead, flung himself into the

It was these wideawake people later with a muffled roar the legion | also who employed the clepsydra turned round and headed back a very clever contrivance, for night towards the sea, drawing themsel- | communications afar. This invenves along with heads three feet in tion was attributed to the tectician the air at a curious, lumbering Arnias. It consisted of a tall ves-lope, until at the end of hundred yards or so many fell panting to let out slowly by a tap on the botthe earth. With practised eyes tom; on the water floated a cork the Siwash picked out the most disk, carrying a guage with divis promising victims and hemmed ions down the side, and on each them in, letting the rest wobble division a separate sentence was painfully away; and it is curious incribed. Each signalling point had that, while the fur seal will tear an one of these contrivances; and on a unarmed man to pieces in a rook- light being shown from one station ery, anywhere else it may be driven it was acknowledged by the other like a sheep. Then the butchery and each clepsydra opened at the began. Hand spike and rifle butt same moment. When the surface fell like flails on the rounded heads, of the water receded to the sentence required, the signalling station though they were cardboard, and again showed a light, when the soon the hollow beneath the rocks other stopped the outflow and read the words inscribed at the water level upon the corresponding gauge.

Hannibal erected watch towers in Africa and Spain to signal from; steam about them in the nipping and whenever the Romans extended their conquests into Gaul, Spain, or elsewhere, they made use holluschak's skin, was almost too of similar signalling devices. A much at times even for the mate's representation of one of their telegraph towers is engraved on Tra-In a few hours' time a winrow of jan's Column. These towers, the in various parts of France, very teenth century. But for the abshoulder, while the perspiration | might, and not improbably would, have developed the same (sema-

modern successors. Polybius perfected an alphabetical method of camp signals, supposed to have originated by Cleoxenes. The letters of the alphabet were divided into five or six sections, with columns corresponding to each. The number of the letter at a given moment signalled from each column was indicated by the number of torches held up. Julius Africanus describes a somewhat similar system in which the letters were divided into three sections only.

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PREHISTORIC BATTLES.—Twenty thousand years ago, according to the announcement of Professor Walters, the archaelogist, in the New York Sun, a terrible battle was fought on the Arkansas river, in the Indian Territory, between the mound builders and the Mayas, called Battle Bridge, because it was in which over 75,000 warriors bit in the neighborhood that one of the dust. He has reached this remarkable conclusion on account of his investigations of a prehisat the result of her plans, commit- toric burying ground in the Choctaw Indian country, which he has found to cover thirty acres, and to contain fully 75,000 skeletons. His attention was first called to the remarkable number of human skele tons to be found there several months ago, when the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Railway was built through the Choctaw ing, brought to the light tons of human bones and a remarkably large number of implements engaged for a very long time on the of savage warfare, and Professor Walters set about to investigate the matter, scientifically. To his house built at Chiswick to allow of amazement he found a large tract literally underlaid with these relics of a forgotten race. The skulls were pierced with darts or arrow points. This proved that they died in battle. The skeletons were found buried in the sand, and above the sand were two distinct strata formed in geological periods. These facts enabled Professor Walters to compute approximately the period when the battle occurred. the centre of each wheel of the He has compared the facts just chariot there is an enormous sword. | learned with the result of seven- LOUIS SCHADE, teen years' previous study of the mound builders and formed the theory that the battle was one of a ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT long series of sanguinary encounters between that mysterious race and the Mayas, which latter race came from Central and South It is anticipated that this noble America and sought to gain pos-



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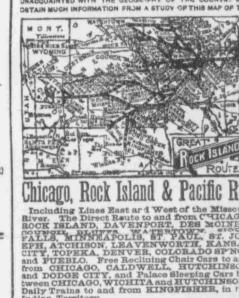


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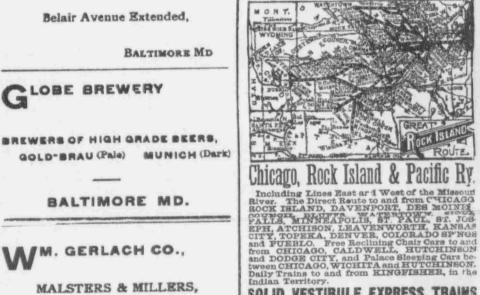
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